

Patent Claims

1. A method for operating two devices, specifically a computer tomograph (2) and an injector (4), in the case of which an injection of a contrast agent is controlled via the injector (4) and a scanning operation is controlled via the computer tomograph (2), operationally relevant data being transmitted via a data interface (20A, B) between the computer tomograph (2) and the injector (4), characterized in that the two devices (2, 4) mutually exchange data relating to their respective operating state.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the data transmitted by one device (2, 4) is used as a basis to control the operation of the other device (4, 2).
3. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which before starting to operate one device (2, 4) the operational readiness of the other device (4, 2) is checked.
4. The method as claimed in claim 3, in which the start of the operation of one device (2, 4) is automatically suppressed if the other device (4, 2) is not operationally ready.
5. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which a malfunction, occurring during the operation, of one device (2, 4), is transmitted to the other device (4, 2).
6. The method as claimed in claim 5, in which in the presence of the malfunction a decision is made automatically with the aid of a termination rule as to whether the operation of the other device (4, 2) is terminated or continued.
7. The method as claimed in claim 6, in which decision parameters are provided for the termination rule, values for the decision parameters

- being adopted automatically from the operational data of at least one of the devices (2, 4) such as, for example, the quantity of the already injected contrast agent, and/or
- being input manually before the start of the operation, and/or
- being determined in an organ-specific fashion taking account of an organ to be examined, and/or
- being determined in a patient-specific fashion and input, and/or
- being determined with the aid of the protocol characterizing the carrying out of the scanning operation and/or the injection.

8. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which current operational data of one device (2, 4) are displayed on a display element (8B, A) at the other device (4, 2).

9. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which one of the devices (2) is provided with a common operating console (12A) with the aid of which it is also possible to drive the other device (4).

10. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which the data interface (20A, B) is standardized for the data exchange between the devices (2, 4).

11. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which after the carrying out of the scanning operation and/or the injection, a specific data protocol of one device (2, 4) is transmitted to the other device (4, 2).

12. An apparatus having a computer tomograph (2) and an injector (4), in the case of which the computer tomograph (2) and the injector (4) are connected to one another via a data

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interface (20A, B) for mutually exchanging operationally
relevant data,

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characterized in that the computer tomograph (2) and the injector (4) are designed for transmitting data relating to their operating state to the respective other device (2, 4).